

## REMARKS

### Claim Rejections Under 35 USC Section 103

In the current Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-63, and 79-86 as unpatentable over the Estabrook reference on Internet Explorer 4 and the W3C reference on Line Mode Browser Commands. The Examiner stated that the Estabrook reference teaches that the user can enter commands in the URL field of a WWW browser to bring up the “dial up networking screen” or bring up a “my computer” application, and that therefore the claim limitation to enter commands via the browser to a “separately executing other program” is met. The Examiner’s suggestion that the Applicant amend the claim language to clarify a different operation of “separately executing program” is appreciated.

First, it is noted that Estabrook teaches that the user can use the Address Bar of the Windows 98 browser to enter a Windows path and cursor thru a drop down directory to act on a file in a Windows folder. To act on a file in a Windows folder, the user must enter a path such as “My Computer”, for example, and then the Address Bar appearing in the “My Computer” dialog box can be used to save a document or to open a file to a folder in the My Computer drop down directory.

It is also noted that the previously cited “Smart Computing” reference, entitled “Use Windows 98’s Address Bar to Its Potential”, mentions using the Address Bar to run program applications in the Windows path directory or DOS commands. In the Section entitled “Nose Around Your PC” (Page 2 of 4), it states:

“Typing a path in the Address Bar will take you to the contents of a particular drive or folder. Once you are there, use the Window’s toolbar to navigate your PC’s folder structure. This can be a lot quicker than going several layers into the Start menu to launch Windows Explorer and find a file or folder.

The Address Bar essentially duplicates the Run dialog box (go to Start and Run), which makes it useful for launching apps on your hard drive. Quickly run an application

by typing the program name into the Address Bar. Type “calc” or “notepad” to run Calculator or Notepad, respectively.

“As long as an app is located in the default path (the standard places Windows looks, such as C:\WINDOWS or C:\PROGRAM FILES), you can launch it directly from the Address Bar.”

Therefore, the cited prior art references teach that a user can enter a program name to save or open a file or run a program from the Windows directory. Moreover, the name command is only used to launch (run) the program. Presumably, once the program is launched, the user will be taken into the program application environment and will remain there until the user exits.

In contrast to the prior art, the present invention enables the user to enter a command to execute a function in an already running, separately executing program while remaining in the browser mode. In a preferred embodiment, a status display of the separately executing program is displayed in the browser display area 108, and the user can enter a command in the URL field of the browser which is analyzed and interpreted as a command to be executed in the already running program. The interaction of the user entering commands in the URL field with the browser display area 108 is explained in the original Specification (Page 9, last paragraph, through Page 10):

“In a first example of a command interacting with area 108, the displayed page can be used to display what the system understood the user's command to mean, ask for confirmation and/or explain the consequences of performing the command. Alternatively, the display may be used to suggest to the user what commands are most relevant to be applied at any given moment. As can be appreciated, in some cases, area 108 may comprise two types of information, information from the system and regular WWW information. The two types of information may be displayed side-by-side, such as using a banner or two interaction windows, with one information in a window surrounded by the other or possibly with one information type being overlaid by the other.

“In another example, the area 108 may be used to allow a user to modify and/or add details to the command entered by him. The “page” shown in this area may be generated responsive to the command. Alternatively or additionally, a previously displayed page may be used for defining a modification to a command, even before the command is executed. In one exemplary embodiment, a command can be modified by selecting a portion of area 108 to be used in interpreting the command. For example, a “buy this” command can be modified by a selection on area 108 of the object to be bought. Alternatively or additionally, a user can copy a portion of area 108 into the URL

area (or a different command area). If it is graphical information which is copied, the pasted text can include an indication of the copied graphic, for example an underlying HTML command or displayed coordinates.

“Alternatively or additionally, area 108 is used to provide feedback on the results of the command (e. g., "file copied successfully") or on the progress of the command (e. g., "20 files of 405 files transferred"). Alternatively, such statuses may be displayed in a status line of the browser window (not shown).

“Alternatively or additionally, area 108 is used for displaying the effect of the command, for example a retrieved page or a page generated as a result of the command. Alternatively or additionally, combinations or the above display types may be generated, for example being overlaid or being displayed side-by-side, in separate windows, or as banners.

“A recent thrust in software development is the creation of new software packages which include a WWW interface so that they may be accessed over an Internet or Intranet or even on a local computer using a browser. However, older versions of software may not have this capability. Additionally, each software utilizes a different interface. In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, an interface is provided for such WWW-incompliant software, so that it may be accessed over the Internet, Intranet or on a local computer. This interface may be the above-described command interface or it may be a graphical interface implemented on area 108.

“The software controlled by the interface may be executed on a local or on a remote computer.”

Main Claims 1, 6, 47, 56, and 85 are therefore amended herein to further specify that the WWW browser is employed as an interface having a URL field and a graphical display area for the browser, and a display of a status of the other separately-executing program is enabled in the graphical display area of the browser. By this interactive use of the URL field and browser display area, the user is enabled to enter a command while remaining in the browser mode and is apprised of the status of the other separately-executing program via the display in the browser display area. The added limitation is deemed to patentably distinguish over the cited prior art which only teaches entering a command in the Address Bar to run a program in the Windows path directory, and then remaining in the program application environment (not the browser mode) until the user exits.

The other depending claims continue to depend from the main Claims 1, 6, 47, 56 and 85, respectively, and are deemed to be patentable for the same reason presented above. Claim 37

which previously recited the use of the browser graphical display area (now incorporated in the main claims) is canceled, and the dependency of Claims 38-46 thereon is changed to Claim 1. Claims 38-46 are directed to the feature of providing feedback from the other executing program to be displayed in the graphical display area as to effect or result of the command. This is a unique use of the browser display as an interface to confirm the effect of the entered command on the other separately executing program which the cited prior art does not show or suggest. Editorial corrections are also made to several claims consistent with the above claim amendments.

New depending Claims 87 and 88 are added directed to two unique aspects for use of commands entered in the browser URL field, as described in the above quoted passages from the original Specification. No new matter is deemed to be added. The two depending claims are within the number of total claims previously paid for. However, if any fees are deemed to be due for acceptance of the two added claims, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fees (small entity) to our Deposit Account No. 50-3195.

In summary, the Application and Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-36, 38-63, and 79-88 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance, and it is requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued upon reconsideration.